

TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF THE MARYLAND MEDICAL DISPENSARY ASSOCIATION

Senate Bill 286—Firearms-Use of Medical Cannabis **SUPPORT**

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee February 8, 2022

The Maryland Medical Dispensary Association (MDMDA) was established in May, 2017 in order to promote the common interests and goals of the Medical Cannabis Dispensaries in Maryland. MDMDA advocates for laws, regulations and public policies that foster a healthy, professional and secure medical cannabis industry in the State. MDMDA works on the State and local level to advance the interests of licensed dispensaries as well as to provide a forum for the exchange of information in the Medical Cannabis Industry.

Senate Bill 286 specifies that a person may not be denied the right to purchase, possess, or carry a firearm simply because he or she is a qualifying patient in Maryland's medical cannabis program. The MDMDA strongly believes that Marylanders should not have to choose between owning a legal firearm and accessing medication.

For this simple and straightforward reason, we urge the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee to vote favorably on Senate Bill 286.